

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 4011**  
Kenichi IWAMOTO et al. : Docket No. 2003\_1590  
Serial No. 10/699,788 : Group Art Unit 3682  
Filed November 4, 2003 : Examiner M. Charles

PISTON ROD POSITION DETECTOR,  
AUTOTENSIONER AND BELT TENSION ADJUSTER

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

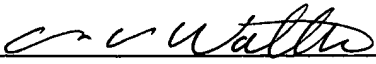
Pursuant to the requirement to elect a single species, as set forth in the Office Action mailed December 30, 2004, Applicants hereby elect Species I depicted in Fig. 1. Claims 1-5, 8, 11 and 18 are readable on the elected species.

Regarding claim 18, it is submitted that this claim is readable on the species of Fig. 1. In particular, it is noted that claim 18 specifies that the coil spring has "one end supported on one sidewall of said cylinder and the other end secured to said piston rod." Since the right-hand end (as shown in Fig. 1) of the coil spring 15 is held on the piston rod 13 by the flange 14, it is submitted that the claimed "other end" of the coil spring 15 is "secured" to the piston rod 13, as claimed in claim 18.

In view of this election, examination on the merits of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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